



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Fish and Game

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Central/Southwest

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October 11, 2016

An Agenda Change Request (ACR) has been submitted to the Alaska Board of Game requesting a change to 5 AAC 92.029 by changing the regulation to allow for the release of community cats after they have been trapped and neutered.

With respect to the board's ACR acceptance criteria (5 AAC 92.005):

- (A) The department is unaware of any conservation concerns that require immediate board action to address a biological concern or a loss of hunting opportunity.
- (B) The department is unaware of an error in regulation.
- (C) The department is unaware of any unforeseen effects of regulations that should be addressed in a change to a regulation.

It is currently legal to capture and euthanize community cats (feral and stray cats), and the proponent requests that the regulation be amended to allow community cats to be trapped, neutered, and released back into the wild. Best available science has shown disease transmission and threats to wild bird and small mammal populations persist under a trap-neuter-release program. If the board does not accept this ACR, the proponent can submit a proposal by May 1, 2017 to be considered at the Statewide Cycle A and B meeting, as the regulation in question is on the regularly scheduled call for proposals for that meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Dale".

Bruce Dale, Director
Division of Wildlife Conservation